

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 14322 070121Z

73

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20 EB-11 CIEP-02 TRSE-00

STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 ABF-01 DRC-01 /169 W

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P 061430Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8314

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 14322

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IN, US

SUBJECT: SWARAN SINGH REMARKS ON INDO-US RELATIONS

1. REMARKS THAT SWARAN SINGH MADE DURING THE COURSE OF A DEBATE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN THE PARLIAMENT TODAY WERE NOT OUT OF THE ORDINARY, BUT WERE FRIENDLY AND CONSTRUCTIVE. HE SAID THAT BOTH INDIA AND THE US HAD MADE AN EFFORT TO IMPROVE RELATIONS OVER THE PAST YEAR. HE REPORTED THAT THE PL-480 NEGOTIATIONS WERE PROCEEDING SATISFACTORILY AND AN AGREEMENT WAS EXPECTED SOON. HE SAID THAT THE US AND INDIA WERE ENTERING A PHASE "WHEN A COOPERATIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP CAN BE BUILT." OF COURSE HE SAID THAT INDIA WAS CONCERNED ABOUT "ARMS" BUT DIDN'T DWELL ON THE MATTER AND SPOKE GENERALLY OF HIS HOPE THAT US POLICY WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO PEACE IN THE REGION.

2. WHAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER DIDN'T SAY WAS ALSO SIGNIFICANT. DESPITE PRESS STORIES WHICH HAVE BEEN RUNNING HERE ABOUT THE ENTRY OF A SECOND CARRIER TASK FORCE INTO THE INDIAN OCEAN(CONVENIENTLY OMMITING THE REPLACEMENT ELEMENT)SWARAN SINGH SAID NOT A WORD ABOUT OUR NAVAL PRESENCE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. A PREVIOUS SPEAKER IN THE DEBATE HAS ASKED FOR HIM TO COMMENT. HE IGNORED THE REQUEST.

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SCHNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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